

Another \$27 million available after implementation of successful plan

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep Harry Mitchell today announced the Department of Energy has released \$22.2 million in stimulus funding to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in Arizona.

The \$22.2 million represents 40 percent of Arizona's allotment of energy funds and was released following the state's submission of its plans for the funding. Arizona will use the funds to establish a revolving loan program in order to provide a sustainable financing mechanism for small business owners who are looking to fund energy efficient building improvements or install solar projects at their facilities.

"This funding will provide important opportunities for our small business owners to begin investing in solar thereby making their businesses more energy efficient and save money in the long run," Mitchell said. "Utilizing renewable energy sources, such as solar, will help reduce our dependence on oil and reduce our carbon footprint. In addition to the long term economic and environmental impact on our state, this funding will also help create jobs in Arizona now."

Arizona is one of 10 states to receive funding under the State Energy Program. Arizona initially received 10 percent of its funding, or about \$5 million for planning activities. The \$22.2 million Arizona is set to receive today is the first wave of funding for implementation of energy programs. After demonstrating successful implementation of its plan, the state will receive an additional \$27 million, for a statewide total of \$55 million overall. [Source: [U.S. Department of Energy](#)]

In April, Mitchell toured local businesses to identify firsthand some of the innovations and technologies that are creating green-collar jobs in Arizona while promoting the use of clean energy. Each of the businesses is seeking to leverage funding from the economic stimulus package to make investments in clean energy projects that are creating green-collar jobs. [Source: [The Arizona Republic](#), April 11, 2009]